

Abstract:

First of all, the author introduces the problem to the reader by description of the idol and its history. Subsequently he reaches the first pillar of his thesis – summary of the history of research and academic debate about the origin and interpretation of the Zbruch idol since the moment of discovery up to today. The author tries to present equally all the directions of interpretation present in discussion for 170 years and in the same time to reach the main specifics of individual periods and key questions of the debate. Even though the author attempts to give an account of equally all significant researchers, who contributed to the progression of the debate, he focuses more precisely on the period previous to Leńczyk comprehensive study from 1964, which he considers neglected. Yet he does not remain impartial in the summary and expresses his disapproving opinion about researchers, who deny the authenticity of the sculpture and declare it a forgery, as those, who deny the idols Slavic origin. The author admits, that the Zbruch idol probably bears signs of influence from migrating Turkic tribes, but he does not consider it their work. He comments this question in a partial way in the chapter about parallels, which serves him to prove that the Slavic territory probably carried enough of stone monuments similar to the Zbruch idol, and therefore he cannot agree with the thesis, that such a type of idol is not Slavic. Ultimately he passes on to the freer part of the thesis – he presents several in his opinion unnoticed elements on the surface of the idol, which have interpretative potential, and then he submits possibilities of interpretation. Over the bridge created of several bolder complex interpretations of the idol he embarks on his own version of the idol's interpretation based on a comparative method. As a sample to research he takes the little wheel – the solar disc – discovered by G. Leńczyk. With that he finally puts forward three variants of a conceivable myth, which could be captured on the Zbruch idol.